

Cuba's Roa links CIA to new training camps

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (LNS) — Cuban Foreign Minister Raul Roa has accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of making plans to install new military training camps in Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama. Roa said that the camps would be used by Cuban mercenaries for hit and run attacks on Cuban territory.

The charge was made in the text of a letter sent to United Nations Secretary General U Thant in response to the U.S. government's recent attack on the Cuban mission to the U.N. On Aug. 21, the State Department expelled a Cuban official for trying to gather information concerning "the security of the President."

Another member of the Mission, now in Havana, was refused permission to re-enter the United States for allegedly trying to gather intelligence of military value.

Daily News charges 'plots'

The government did not give any details, leaving the case open to the public imagination for interpretation.

Sure enough, the New York Daily News ran an appropriate headline ("Oust Cuban Spy in Nixon plot") and with the help of unidentified sources accused the third secretary of the Mission of attempting to "plot the assassination of President Nixon."

Roa flatly denied the charges, saying "they could not be more absurd."

The truth is that Cuban diplomats accredited to the U.N. are seriously hampered in their work, said Roa, and Cuba's Permanent Representative has been repeatedly threatened with assassination; members of the mission are



RAUL ROA GARCIA

under constant surveillance and are not permitted outside of a 25-mile radius of New York City; furthermore, their living quarters have been broken into, under the guise of robberies.

The most recent move of the State Department is simply another aspect of its continuing cam-

paign to discredit and ultimately destroy the Cuban Revolution. It was in this context that Roa revealed the CIA plans for training camps in Central America.

Nixon's pal named

He said that "Bebe" Rebozo Rebollo, the Florida real estate operator who is a close friend of President Nixon, had served as the intermediary between the CIA and two Cuban exiles, Emilio Nunez Portuondo and Edgardo Buttari.

The plan, according to Roa, is to train small groups of Cuban mercenaries, who have fought in Vietnam, to launch guerrilla attacks on Cuba from the Central American bases.

At the conclusion of his letter, the Cuban official reiterated a long standing position of his government concerning the location of the United Nations:

"Far from having an interest in maintaining a diplomatic mission in the territory of the United States in order to carry out alleged acts of espionage, our government is in favor of moving this institution to another country, one that would offer the necessary guarantees for the integrity of the organization and of the representatives of all the peoples without them having to suffer constant taunts, discriminations and provocations."